



The Washington Daily News

A SCRIPPS-HOWARD NEWSPAPER

"Give light and the people will find their own way."

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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 12, 1962

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Dl. 7-7777

In Metropolitan Washington: By Carrier, 30¢ per week; \$1.50 per month. By Mail: 3 Months, \$3.90; 6 months, \$7.80; per year, \$15.00. Foreign Mail: \$2 month; \$24 year.
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How Long?

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THE sadistic nature of the communist government in Cuba again is demonstrated in renewed negotiations over the Bay of Pigs prisoners.

Castro not only tortures the thousand unfortunate men, with threats of execution and long imprisonment. By repeatedly offering freedom, then snatching the offer away, he also torments their mothers and fathers, their wives and children.

The present negotiations, conducted by New York Atty. James B. Donovan, are very much like the tractor deal, engineered by a committee headed by Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, Walter Reuther and Dr. Milton Eisenhower. When money for the tractors was raised, and the tractors offered, Castro reneged.

While Mr. Donovan acts unofficially, no one denies he has Government sanction and there has been open speculation that Government funds are involved in the fortune in drugs, medicine and baby foods offered as ransom.

The use of tax money for this purpose is wrong in principle, degrading in practice, and self-defeating in execution. True, these poor devils of freedom fighters tried to rescue their homeland from tyranny in

the belief, however misguided, that the United States Government was back of them. They were recruited on our soil, trained on our money and given the "go" signals by our officials. But as they clung to their Cuban beach head, necessary U. S. support was denied to them and Castro herded them up.

In the name of humanity, we certainly owe them something, but there is no evidence to date that we can squirm out by ransom, or blackmail—call it what you will.

The sufferings of these prisoners, and their families, are only a little greater than the miseries of the whole population of Cuba, victims of a popular revolution which was betrayed to the Kremlin. The United States also favored Castro on the tragically mistaken belief that he was a great liberator from the tyrant, Batista. In comparison, that vicious man looks almost benevolent.

Communist Cuba is a menace to our security, an insult to our national pride, also a load on our conscience which merely is dramatized by the Bay of Pigs prisoners and Castro's cruelly tantalizing treatment of them.

It remains a question just how long all this can be tolerated.